

REMARKS

Claims 1-12 and 15-17 are now present in this application.

Claim 1 has been amended, and claims 13 and 14 have been cancelled without prejudice or disclaimer. Reconsideration of the application, as amended, is respectfully requested.

Claims 13-16 stand objected to for certain informalities. In view of the foregoing amendments, it is respectfully submitted that these informalities have been addressed by the cancellation of claims 13 and 14. Reconsideration and withdrawal of this objection are requested.

Claims 1-3, 10 and 17 stand rejected under 35 USC 102(b) as being anticipated by BILIR, U.S. Patent 5,923,099. This rejection is respectfully traversed.

Claims 4-6 and 11-16 stand rejected under 35 USC 103 as being unpatentable over BILIR in view of SPEARS et al., U.S. Patent 6,304,981. This rejection is respectfully traversed.

Claim 7 stands rejected under 35 USC 103 as being unpatentable over BILIR in view of LEE et al., U.S. Patent 5,815,409. This rejection is respectfully traversed.

Claim 8 stands rejected under 35 USC 103 as being unpatentable over BILIR in view of FORREST et al., U.S. Patent 5,553,296. This rejection is respectfully traversed.

Claim 9 stands rejected under 35 USC 103 as being unpatentable over BILIR in view of ARAKAWA et al., U.S. Patent 6,105,138. This rejection is respectfully traversed.

The Examiner asserts that BILIR teaches a switch module by broadly interpreting "the loss of AC power signal." It is respectfully submitted, however, that BILIR teaches that when external AC power is lost, UPS would pass "the loss of AC power signal" to the shutdown device. However, referring to Fig. 4 of this application, the power supply 5 is the one corresponding to the AC power, not the claimed switch module. Since the switch module is an element of the claimed safe shutdown device, the loss of AC power signal is impossible to transmit from UPS, but should be transmitted to UPS. Moreover, the switch module in this application is for triggering a signal that can be manually controlled by an operator even when AC power is still on. The signal passes from the safe shutdown device to the UPS. All of these differences lie in that the problems to be solved by BILIR's teaching and those in this application are quite different. BILIR's intelligent backup power controller will automatically shut down operations in a graceful, nondisruptive manner when main power loss occurs while the system is unattended. With reference to the last paragraph in "Background of the Invention" in this application, the safe shutdown device is intended to work when an operator intentionally shuts down external apparatuses. If power loss occurs

in this application but no operator notices this, the UPS will supply power to peripheral apparatuses until its backup power is exhausted. Thus, BILIR's teaching is completely different from this application.

The secondary references utilized by the Examiner fail to overcome the deficiencies of the primary reference.

Accordingly, it is respectfully submitted that the safe shutdown device for an uninterruptible power supply system as set forth in independent claims 1 and 17, as well as their dependent claims, is neither taught nor suggested by the prior art utilized by the Examiner. Reconsideration and withdrawal of the 35 USC 102(b) and 103 rejections are respectfully submitted.

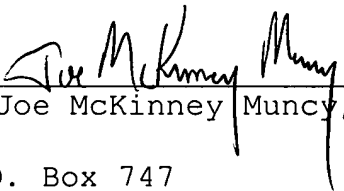
Favorable reconsideration and an early Notice of Allowance are earnestly solicited.

In the event that any outstanding matters remain in this application, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at (703) 205-8000 in the Washington, D.C. area.

If necessary, the Commissioner is hereby authorized in this, concurrent, and future replies, to charge payment or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 02-2448 for any additional fees required under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16 or 1.17; particularly, extension of time fees.

Respectfully submitted,

BIRCH, STEWART, KOLASCH & BIRCH, LLP

By 
Joe McKinney Muncy, #32,334

KM/asc
3626-0185P

P.O. Box 747
Falls Church, VA 22040-0747
(703) 205-8000